

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2002. Claims 15-21, 23 and 37-58 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Office Action, claims 15-21, 23 and 37-58 were subject to an election/restriction. Applicants will address each basis of rejection in sequence.

I. RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

On page 2 of the Office Action mailed January 18, 2002, the Examiner maintains that the claims are directed to the following patently distinct species:

Species I: Figures 1-10, 14A, 16A, 16B;

Species II: Figures 11 and 12;

Species III: Figure 13;

Species IV: Figure 14B-14E and 15C;

Species V: Figure 14F;

Species VI: Figures 15A and 15B;

Species VII: Figure 16C; and

Species VIII: Figure 16D.

Without traversal Applicants hereby elect to proceed with the invention as defined in Species I of the claims in the instant application. Applicants respectfully suggest that claims 15-21, 23, and 37-58 are readable upon Species I.

Other Remarks

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully assert that the present application is in condition for examination. Should the Examiner have any questions with regard to the instant response, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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